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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MICHAEL PITTROFF ET AL.  
Serial No.: 09/988,820 Group Art Unit: 1724  
Filed: NOVEMBER 20, 2001 Examiner: Robert Spitzer  
Title: ISOLATION OF SF<sub>6</sub> FROM INSULATING GASES IN GAS-INSULATED LINES

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2003

TC 1700

Preliminary to further examination of the above identified patent application, kindly amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please rewrite claims 1 and 5-7 as follows:

C<sub>1</sub>  
1. (Twice Amended) A process for separating a mixture of SF<sub>6</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>, the SF<sub>6</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> mixture being obtained from a gas insulated line, comprising introducing the mixture to a mobile membrane separator comprising at least one separating membrane which preferentially passes N<sub>2</sub>, collecting an SF<sub>6</sub> enriched retentate, and forming an N<sub>2</sub> enriched permeate, wherein said mixture has an initial SF<sub>6</sub> content of from 5 to 50 volume-%, said at least one membrane comprises a polymer matrix composed of a polycarbonate made from a bisphenol in which at least 25% of the bisphenol units in the polymer chain are tetrahalogenated with chlorine or bromine, and said mixture is fed to said membrane separator at a membrane feed pressure of 10 to 13 bar.

C<sub>2</sub>  
5. (Twice Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the process is utilized during the use of the gas insulated line to purify an insulating gas mixture of SF<sub>6</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>.